

Basin Baptist
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winter conference



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for more than 125 Years!"
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INSIDE

New Brockton
basketball team
wins holiday
tournament



The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 4, 2024

1 Section, 8 Pages

No foul play is suspected and investigation is underway

Coffee County Sheriff reports death of county jail inmate

An Oklahoma man died in his cell at the Coffee County Jail sometime after being booked as an inmate Wednesday evening, Dec. 27, and was found unresponsive Thursday morning, Dec. 28, according to information released by Coffee County Sheriff Scott Byrd.

Isaiah Martin, age 28, of Ada, Okla., was booked into the Coffee County Jail last Wednesday evening following an arrest by Enterprise Police for public intoxication. On Thursday morning, Dec. 28, he was found unresponsive in his cell.

Coffee County chief deputy Michael Hines said members of Enterprise Rescue and the New Brockton Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene but were unable to revive Martin.

"While no foul play is suspected, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency will conduct an investigation as required by Coffee County Jail procedures," Chief Hines said. "An autopsy had been ordered to determine the cause of death."

No further details are available at this time.

Absentee voting applications for Alabama's March 5th Primary Elections available beginning Jan. 10, 2024

Please note that Thursday, Feb. 29, at 4:30 p.m., is the deadline to apply in person for absentee ballots for the March 5th Primary Election.

Beginning Jan. 10, 2024, applications for absentee voting will be available at the absentee election manager's office in New Brockton. Absentee Election Manager is Debbie Kinsaul. Mailing address is P.O. Box 427, New Brockton, AL, 36351. The physical location is 5 County Complex, New Brockton, Alabama.

Any qualified voter may submit an absentee ballot application by mail or in person to the Absentee Election Manager's office for the

following reasons:

- The voter is out of the country or state on Election Day.
- The voter has any physical illness or infirmity which prevents the voter from attending the polls.
- The voter works a shift that has at least 10 hours, which coincide with the hours the polls are open at the voter's regular polling place.
- The voter is a student enrolled in school outside the county of residence.
- The voter is a member, a spouse or a dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces or is similarly qualified to vote absentee

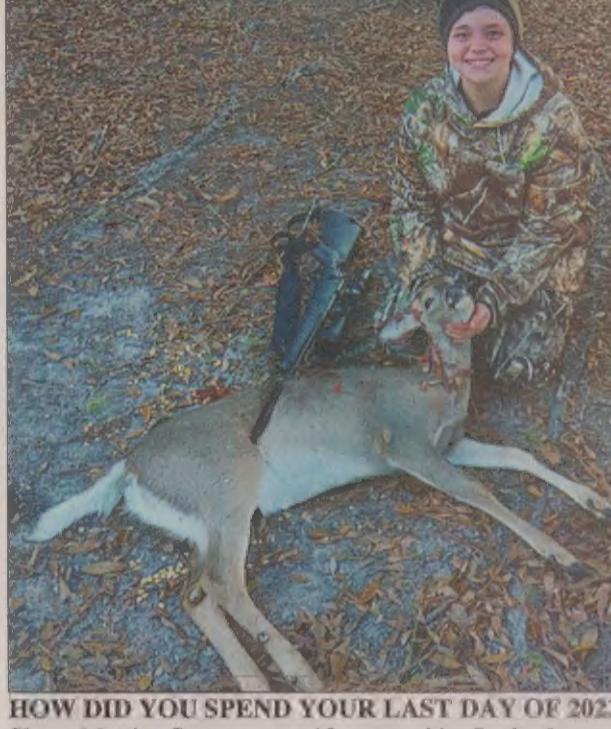
Completed ballots must

be returned by the voter in person to the Absentee Election Manager at 5 County Complex, New Brockton, Alabama no later than one day prior to the election, or if mailed through the United States Postal Service, it must be postmarked no later than one day prior to the election.

Multiple ballots cannot be mailed in the same envelope.

NOTICE:

The Elba Cemetery Board will meet Thursday, Jan. 4, at Elba City Hall at 6 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.



HOW DID YOU SPEND YOUR LAST DAY OF 2023?

Shaw Martin Cowen, age 10, spent his final afternoon of 2023 [Sunday, Dec. 31] hunting with his dad, Clint Cowen, and it turned into a day Shaw Martin will never forget as he killed his first deer - a whitetail doe (pictured above). It was an exciting moment for both son and dad! Shaw Martin is the son of Clint and Sarah Cowen of Elba. He attends school at Kinston.

Students return to school from the holidays

Coffee County Schools students will return to school from their holiday break on Thursday, Jan. 4, while Elba City Schools students will return from their holiday break on Monday, Jan. 8th. Motorists are encouraged to use caution as those school buses return to the roadways.

The Elba Clipper takes a 'look back' at some top headlines from 2023



This May 2023 fire destroyed the JJ's BBQ building, but the good news at the start of 2024 is that a new building is under construction for JJ's BBQ on Davis Street in Elba. A re-opening is expected to be announced very soon.

into a sheriff's department vehicle; Coffee County Commissioners recognize Career Technical Education month; A two-vehicle wreck on Hwy. 87 claims the life of Dennis Edward Murphy of Opp; Elba Lady Tigers advance to South Regional Finals in basketball.

MARCH 2023 – Elba Mayor Tom Maddox presents 'key to the city' to Dr. Henry Terry during Black History Month concert; Faith Adcock crowned Miss Elba; Elba High School teacher Al Gilmore named Alabama DAR Outstanding Teacher of American History; New Brockton Town Council hires Shirley Law Firm as new town attorney; Rumble on the River wrestling event returns to Elba High School for fundraiser; Sunbelt Solomon announces plans to open a new facility in Elba; ATV crash in Kinston claims the life of teen JP Howerton; Elba Public Library hosts author Jeffrey K. Smith for book signing; Elba-based trailer manufacturer Dorsey surpasses production goals in 2022; Eight Elba High School FCCLA students qualify for nationals while another is named state FCCLA president.

APRIL 2023 – Coffee County engineer says 28.76 miles of county roads are projected to be resurfaced in Fiscal Year 2023; Elba band student Ava Staver recognized at Elba BOE meeting; Easter bunny visits Elba Public Library; New Brockton Middle School Junior Beta Club recognized at Coffee County Board meeting for winning state competition awards; Coffee County Farm-City committee wins scrapbook award for Division I during Alabama Farm-City awards luncheon; Elba Chamber hosts Egg 'n Issues legislative breakfast; Longtime Elba teacher Brian Weeks submits his retirement papers after 33 years of teaching at Elba High School; Elba City Council votes to move forward with cen-

tralized dispatch center and renovations for new Elba Chamber office; Zion Chapel's Avery Padgett selected for Bassmasters High School All-State Fishing Team.

MAY 2023 – Elba man Douglas Marler arrested on charges of sexual abuse and rape; Group interested in bringing a Blueway Trail to Elba meets at Elba Public Library; Coffee County BOE accepts immediate resignation of New Brockton High School teacher HeartLee Sanders; Elba City councilman Gappa Wise addresses 'clean up' needs around the city; Boston man Brent Harrison arrested on charges of intent to distribute drugs during Sol Fest music rave event held at Bama Jam property in Coffee County; JJ's BBQ building in Elba destroyed by fire; Elba students bring Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.® to the stage; Coffee County Youth Leadership Program graduates first class since the COVID pandemic began; Elba High School Alumni Association donates softball equipment to Elba Elementary School physical education program; 1967

Chevy Chevelle takes home "best in show" award from Foggy Bottom Car Show held in conjunction with Rockin' the River festival; Christopher Nelson of Elba arrested on sodomy charges; Elba BOE names Johnny Senn as board president; New Brockton queens recognized at town council meeting

JUNE 2023 – Local DAR chapter – John Coffee Chapter #3033 – celebrates 60 years of service; Elba city council appoints Miranda Russell to full term on Elba school board; New Brockton town council votes to dissolve recreation board; Elba pastor Paul Jackson hopes his book – Coaching by Dad – will be a guide for dads to be more intentional with their children; Elba BOE votes to hire Tyler Booker as system's new special education coordinator; ATM machine at Troy Bank and Trust disabled following robbery attempt; Former Enterprise police officer Tomas Arias Jr. pleads guilty to multiple sex offenses; Elba Police Chief Troy Staley placed on administrative leave; Zion Chapel Bass Team competes in state championships; New marquee sign arrives in Elba for Elba Theatre; Elba 8U baseball team competes in Dixie Youth Baseball state tournament; Coffee County School System among top systems in state for ACAP Reading Assessment; Kinston Elementary School gets new book vending machine

JULY 2023 – Large crowd gathers for the official lighting of the new marquee sign at the Elba Theatre; Former New Brockton High School teacher HeartLee Pittman arrested for alleged inappropriate communications with a student; Elba Board of Education approves the hire of Dr. Warren Weeks as new principal for Elba High School; Falisha Bilal retires as Elba Police dispatcher after more than 25 years of service; Elba FCCLA students bring home two national championships from National FCCLA conference held in Denver, Colorado; Huge crowd attends annual 'Let Freedom Ring' event in Elba for 4th of July celebration; Local retailers hope back-to-school tax-free weekend will

See REVIEW, Page 3



The new marquee sign for the Elba Theatre was officially lit Thursday evening, June 29, with a large crowd in attendance for the event. The Elba Theatre is located in downtown Elba.



Faith Adcock was crowned the 2023 Miss Elba on Saturday night, Feb. 25, at Elba High School.

EDITORIAL

The CaddyShack @ the Elba Country Club

"TOUR OF ITALY" FINE DINING EXPERIENCE

Open to the Public
Saturday, Jan. 6th
Reservations Only! Service begins at 6 p.m.

"SURF AND TURF" FINE DINING EXPERIENCE

Open to the Public
Saturday, Jan. 13th
Reservations Only! Service begins at 6 p.m.

"Featuring special menus created by Chef Robert McDonough"



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Elba, AL

2024
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Elba, AL Enterprise, AL
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A group of youth from Basin Baptist Church attended the Xtreme Winter youth conference last weekend in Gatlinburg, Tennessee with their youth leaders. The youth enjoyed messages from Christian speakers including Tom Richter and Jerrod Gunter. They also heard musical performances by Christian artists The Chapels, Andy Mineo, Colton Dixon, Anne Wilson, and Crowder. The youth that attended the conference were Braylon Samuel, Levi Daniels, Jackson Cowen, Kayedance Baxley, Lucas Farris, Maddie Harlin, and Reed Brewer. They all agreed it was a great experience, and they want to go again soon. They also encourage other church youth groups to consider going to the conference.

Elba Police Report

This report reflects activity for the Elba Police Department from Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023, through Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, as reported to and dispatched from the Coffee County 911 Dispatch Center –

Tuesday, Dec. 26 – Suspicious vehicle reported at Elba Country Club (3:06 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 990 Hwy 203 (3:19 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 333 Plant Ave (8:28 a.m.); Reckless driver reported on Hwy 84 – w/ warning issued (7:27 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 441 Plant Ave (9:47 p.m.).

Four traffic stops resulted in three written warnings, and one verbal warning.

Wednesday, Dec. 27 – Animal complaint reported at 232 Dr Roberts Dr (11:04 a.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 349 County Rd 502 (12:37 p.m.); Drug activity reported at 991 Winston Ave (5:33 p.m.). Six traffic stops resulted in three verbal warnings, two written warnings, and one citation.

Thursday, Dec. 28 – Suspicious person reported at 612 Adams Ave (8:30 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

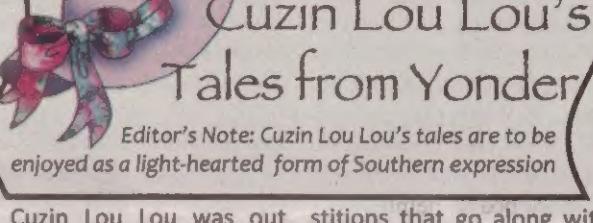
Friday, Dec. 29 – Suspicious person reported at 990 Hwy 203 (6:43 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1025 Drayton Ave (9:13 p.m.). Five traffic stops resulted in four written warnings, and one verbal warning.

Saturday, Dec. 30 – Suspicious circumstances reported at 475 Hwy 203 (5:59 a.m.); Missing person reported at 2272 Taylor Mill Rd (3:33 p.m.). Eight traffic stops resulted in six verbal warnings, and two written warnings.

Sunday, Dec. 31 – Suspicious person reported at 715 Troy Hwy (10:27 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 469 Claxton Ave N (11:47 a.m.). Twelve traffic stops resulted in four verbal warnings, six written warnings, one advice given, and one citation.

Monday, Jan. 1 – Report of shots fired on Martin Luther King Dr (12:04 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported in area of Thomas and Lee streets (12:26 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 747 Adams Ave (12:30 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 606 Buford St (8:00 a.m.); Fireworks complaint reported at 804 Hwy 203 (9:30 p.m.).

**Share Your Views...
Write a Letter to
the Editor**



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou was out of town for a few days last week, and while she was gone Sister did something almost unbelievable...she tidied up Lou Lou's room and washed all her dirty clothes!

Sister knew Lou Lou would return home tired from her trip, and she would not have time to get all those things done before the New Year. So, Sister won herself a "Good Sister Badge" by doing those things for Lou Lou.

It was a pleasant surprise for Lou Lou! She knew Sister had that nice ness in her all along.

Now, though, Lou Lou has to wonder if it will come back to haunt her in the upcoming year. She just feels there will be a "remember when I cleaned and washed your clothes while you were away..." moment.

Maybe it was simply because Sister carries out Mama's old New Year's beliefs and thinks all the laundry must be completed before the end of the New Year. Either way...Lou Lou was the winner this go-round due to Sister's gift to her.

Now, talking about those New Year's beliefs, Sister did take it a step further this year. She apparently had been doing some "reading" about the superstitions that go along with the New Year's Day holiday, and she decided that not only could the Yonder Gang not wash clothes on New Year's Day, but they also could not wash the dishes during the day either.

Since the gang enjoys a meal of pork chops, black-eyed peas, and cabbage with cornbread on the day each year, that meant there were plenty of dirty dishes piled in the sink by day's end. Papa was the unfortunate one that got the joy of loading the dishwasher on Jan. 2nd and cleaning the kitchen back up. Let's just say...he was not a fan of Sister's newly added superstition.

Lou Lou is not a big believer in those superstitions, but she gladly goes along with them each year for a couple of reasons. Number one – the food is good. Number two – it helps Sister hold on to a memory of Mama of something the two shared. That alone is enough to keep honoring the superstitions.

One thing the gang does not ever plan to do is let go of things they shared with Mama, and that includes observing New Year's superstitions. Who knows... maybe one day those peas and greens will actually bring on some extra good luck and cash! It certainly won't hurt to give it a whirl each year.

And...if we need to not wash the clothes and/or dishes one day to help keep folks safe...well, so be it. Papa needs something to do each Jan. 2nd anyway.

Here's hoping you all have a great 2024, and remember...

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

Badcock & more

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Ashburn II 2-PC Sofa Chaise Sectional \$899 REG. \$1299.95 [880147]
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Cocktail Ottoman \$299 [119998]

NEW!

Zander 5-PC Dining Set \$699 REG. \$999.75 [880760]

Dining Set Includes Table and 4 Chairs | Dining Bench [123866]

Prices and offers effective December 26 through January 11, 2024 unless otherwise stated.

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John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER

Linda Hodge - EDITOR

Ricky Mularz - SPORTS

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax

Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13

Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

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REVIEW

(Continued from Page ONE)

a big economic boost; Enterprise man Shannon Scott Anthony faces multiple charges following July 15th standoff/manhunt in Enterprise; Jarrett Nelson hired as new band director for Zion Chapel School; Employment hearing for Elba Police Chief Troy Staley begins

AUGUST 2023 – Elba Board of Education members accept resignation of Jason Tucker as vice principal for Elba schools; Former New Brockton teacher HeartLee Pittman pleads guilty to distributing obscene material to a student; Elba Police Chief Troy Staley terminated after city council members uphold decision to terminate made by Mayor Tom Maddox; Matthew Gary Baker and Tiffany Jo Baker arrested in connection to burglary at Zion Chapel School; Zion Chapel duo completes high school fishing careers with fourth place finish at national event; Elba receives multiple awards at Main Street Alabama conference; Elba football team members pick up trash around downtown area to ‘give back’ to the community

SEPTEMBER 2023 – Juron Waldon of Hartford, Ala. arrested and charged with murder in the 2020 death of Elba’s Donta Jaqun Rogers; Scott Jones named the new Elba/Jack Postmaster; Alabama Department of Corrections inmate Daniel Lee Smallwood escapes from local work release facility after he walks off jobsite, and a search begins; With passing of Fiscal Year 2024 budget, county employees get COLA pay increase; New Brockton town officials celebrate Officer Stefan Caldwell’s completion of the police academy; Elba BOE members thank Greg Sowell for his approximate 12 years of service as a school board member following his resignation from the board; Elba City Council appoints Debra Clark to finish the unexpired term vacated by Greg Sowell on the school board; Alice Edwards of Elba arrested on arson charge after starting a fire at a Claxton Avenue home; Coffee County’s 911 Central dispatch center begins operations in New Brockton; Elba BOE affirms appointment of Debra Clark to school board

OCTOBER 2023 – Coffee County Lake closes for repairs and improvements; New Brockton Mayor



Governor Kaye Ivey speaks in October at the grand opening of the new Sunbelt Solomon facility in Elba, Alabama.

Ralph Medley and city clerk Debra Andrews resign their positions; Elba and New Brockton bands each bring two ‘best in class’ awards home from A-Town Invitational Marching Band Contest; Elba native Gunter Akridge releases book – Kill the Dragon; Elba native Petty Officer 2nd Class Tray Morrow serves aboard Navy ship; Coffee County’s Ada Donaldson wins 2023 Little Miss National Peanut Festival pageant; Elba Rotarians Kenneth Calhoun, Justin Maddox, Barry Giles and the late Bill Brunson receive Paul Harris Fellow awards; Sunbelt Solomon celebrates grand open of Elba, Alabama location with Governor Kaye Ivey in attendance; Elba Water & Electric Board approves water rate increase

NOVEMBER 2023 – Elba High teacher Al Gilmore wins Who’s Who of American Teachers award; New Brockton Elementary School named Science of Reading Spotlight School by state officials – one of only 12 schools across the state to receive this designation; Barry Moore announces candidacy for Congress in Alabama’s new first district; Charles Schieffer named new mayor for Town of New Brockton; Fire at Marley Acres farm/petting zoo in Elba destroys barn building; Town of Kinston awarded \$400,000 to rehabilitate houses; Elba mini mite cheerleaders win Pea River Youth Football/Cheer League championship for the mini mite division; Elba Postmaster Scott Jones offi-

cially sworn-in for position; New Brockton Elementary School recognized for its Science of Reading Spotlight School designation at county board of education meeting; Ms. Linda’s café in downtown Elba opens for business; Elba and Kinston schools benefit from grant program; Dean Smith announces candidacy to seek re-election of Coffee County Commissioner for District One; New canvas-painted mural revealed at Elba Public Library; James Edward Lee pleads guilty to manslaughter in 2021 death of Shaquetha Sharaey Tyson of Elba; Elba’s Alvin Henderson recognized for breaking two state football records – he now owns the state’s single season rushing touchdown record and the state’s single season total touchdown record; Group looking to bring a halfway house to Elba addresses Elba City Council

DECEMBER 2023 – Longtime Dorsey employee Kenneth Brooks named new plant manager; Charles and Becky Hayes serve as Grand Marshals of Elba Christmas Parade; Zion Chapel Baptist Church presents live drive-thru nativity ‘Journey to The Savior’ with 10 different scenes used to tell the story of the birth of Jesus; Elba High volleyball team recognized at Elba BOE meeting for making it to the Elite 8 in the volleyball playoffs for Class 1A; Kinston High cheerleader win state champ awards for Game Day and Traditional events; The Josh and Jill Wilson family is recognized as The Elba Clipper’s 2023 Christmas Family; CCYLP students meet with county leaders; Troy Bank and Trust celebrates the grand re-opening of its Elba branch following recent building renovations

Scott Jones was officially sworn-in as the Elba/Jack Postmaster during a ceremony held in November at the Elba Theatre.



Scott Jones was officially sworn-in as the Elba/Jack Postmaster during a ceremony held in November at the Elba Theatre.

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Love Never Ages

Welcome to the beginning of a new year, which means it's time for reflecting on the past year and how to improve your wellness, health, and life in the upcoming one. For those who have lost someone, resolution season can be a difficult time of making promises that are hard to keep. Here are a few tips to help get through resolution season.

Make Tangible Goals. It's easy to say "I want to lose weight" or "I want to make more money," but those are somewhat abstract goals. How do you plan to lose weight? How are you going to make more money? Attach concrete tasks to each goal. You can pledge to improve work output and earn a bonus or promotion. You can vow to cut down on sweets or fried foods and plan to work out more to lose weight. Those make aspirational goals easier to ground and easier to obtain. For those grieving, the goals may be more rooted in emotion. "I want to cope better with loss" or "I want to honor those I have lost." Those also can be turned into tangible goals. Scheduling those crucial first appointments with grief counselors or therapists can help aid some of the grief of loss. Now, for honoring those that have passed on, those goals can be more varied.

Getting Creative. Honoring those that have been lost is a deeply personal task. Each person is different, and each person's legacy is different. Some would love to be honored by a special memorial garden, while others would want their loved ones to go on one more spectacular trip. Other ways of honoring those lost would be to vow to visit the places where your loved ones are laid to rest more often. You could also try new expressive ways to cope and grieve through artistic expressions like poetry or painting.

Be Honest With Yourself. Change of any kind is difficult. While still processing the grief of a lost loved one, change is even more difficult. Be honest with your emotions and your grief. If you stumble along the way, know that you can always get back up. If you miss a day working out or cannot visit the cemetery as often as you'd like, accept it as a temporary stumbling point and move on, vowing to do better next time.

This resolution season, be kind to yourself. Accept that each step is a step forward and grief comes in many forms. Maybe it's an overemphasis on working out or cooking, or it manifests as a nearly paralyzing fear to try anything new. Use this resolution season to try new things or rediscover some old hobbies that you love and shared with those who have passed. Take each day as an opportunity to honor the legacy of your loved ones.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: www.elba-clipper.com

BETTY DAVIS

Mrs. Betty Davis, age 62, of Opp, Ala., died Friday, Dec. 15, 2023, at Medical Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023, from the Chapel of Coleman Funeral Home, Enterprise, Ala.

She was born Dec. 17, 1960 in Opp, the oldest child of Robert Earl Davis Sr. and Annie J. Davis Phillips

Betty graduated from Opp High School – a member of the Class of 1980.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Daryl McDonald, and two brothers, Robert Earl Davis Jr. and Michael Davis.

Survivors include her two daughters: Ashley A. Davis (Dwight), and Crystal Davis, both of Enterprise, Ala.; six grandchildren: Zyon N. Smith, Birmingham, Ala., Jada A. Hines, Villa Rica, Ga., Jordan Z. Hines, KaMora Z. Hines, Jayden D. Jackson, and Cayden D. Jackson, all of Enterprise; one great grandchild: Oz Elliot Hinton; one brother, Ricky Davis (Renae), Pensacola, Fla.; two sisters: Sabrina Davis (Robert), and Vickie Davis (Rick) both of Opp; along with a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

JOE ROBINSON

Mr. Joe Robinson, age 93, of Enterprise, Ala., died Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec.

23, 2023 at St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church, Enterprise, Ala. with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

Joe was born Aug. 31, 1930 to the late Thomas and Henrietta Robinson in Albany, Ga. He was educated in Doughty County, Georgia School System, where he graduated from Monroe High School. After high school, he joined the military where he was awarded a medal. Upon separation from the military, Joe joined his older brother, the late Roosevelt Robinson in Enterprise, where he worked in the road construction business. The Robinson Brothers would leave their hand and footprints on the roads and highways throughout Enterprise and the State of

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Joe was born Aug

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Reflections

by Michael J. Brooks, Pastor
Siluria Baptist Church

The Things That Endure in Ministry

"Today I went back to the place I used to live," to quote song writer Bill Gaither.

As a pastor for many years, I'm often invited to conduct weddings and funerals in churches I used to serve. On this day I conducted a service for a long-time member who'd had declining health and had been out of state for years living near her son. I remember her as a faithful church member, a Sunday School teacher and a member of the church choir. So, I was happy to share some fond remembrances with the gathered family and friends.

The sumptuous lunch the church served gave opportunity to visit with old friends, and I came away with affirmation of a theory I've had for some time.

Two people told me how much relatives appreciated my visits with them in hospitals and the prayers I prayed with them during their illnesses. Pastors are in hospitals and nursing homes most every week, and it's often hard to remember specifics, but I did remember these two. One of these men was in two separate hospitals in two cities and I thought of him when I visited with our student pastor lately in a particular hospital since this was only my second time in that place and in that city.

No one at the funeral thanked me for any sermons I delivered while their pastor. I don't mean they weren't an appreciative audience, because they were. But I've often believed the most enduring things pastors do is pastoral care—being there in times of need.

Of course, the weekly sermons are important, but I've found it true that congregants don't often remember specific sermons. They may remember a few illustrations or stories, and they may remember a time or two when the pastor messed up, or in my case, when I was stung by yellow jackets while conducting a graveside service!

Someone made a good analogy once about meals at home. We may not remember specific menus too clearly, but we do know we had a nutritious and balanced diet over the years. Our church members may not remember specific sermons but hopefully they know they were fed a steady diet of God's truth.

A pastor must speak the truth and always speak it in love (Ephesians 4:15). But it's also true that what people most seem to remember is the ministry of presence when he or she stands with them in illness or grief, or at the wedding altar or in the baptistery.

Pastors go to seminary to learn to exegete scripture and to systematize theology, and this is good.

But we also learn by experience the value of caring for others who hurt.

**** "Reflections" is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.**

Worship at the Church of Your Choice This and Every Sunday!

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.

Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Sam. Pastor

Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AME CHURCH

Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Class... 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH

Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH

Remoni Smith, Pastor
Church Service... 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Larry Mills, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Steve Reneau, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Services... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Paul Jackson, Pastor
Sunday Fellowship... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week & meal... 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer... 6:15 p.m.
until 7:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

EVANGLIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adcock, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

1ST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON

Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:15 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH

Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening... 5:00 p.m.

GODS POWER HOUSE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH

Overseers - Billy Berry
Sunday Service... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Night... 6:00 p.m.
Thur. Night... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Philip Box, Minister
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE

Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Dwight Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Kit Johnson, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 6:30 p.m.

HAWK HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Shirlee Ellis, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet... 7:00 p.m.

HAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Steve Reneau, Pastor
Morn. Worship... 8:45 a.m.

GRACE FELLOWSHIP JOHN CURTIS ISAACS, PASTOR

Sunday School... 9:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 6:00 p.m.

GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lovell Martin, Pastor
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service... 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Night Service 5:00 p.m.

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe to host grant writing course

The Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will be hosting a free grant writing course Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m. at the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe [2950 County Rd. 377, Elba, Alabama]. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP per email by 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 15th. Email is: machiscreeks@outlook.com

RWCC meeting set for Jan. 17th

The Republican Women of Coffee County will meet Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 11 a.m., at the Enterprise Country Club, 3000 Ozark Highway.

Amy Marshall and Amy Reeves, candidates for Coffee County Circuit Clerk, will speak. County Commissioner candidates for Districts 1, 2, and 4 races have also been invited to speak.

Social time begins at 11 a.m.; an optional \$13 buf-

fest begins at 11:30; and the program begins at approximately 12 noon. Everyone is invited, but reservations are required. RSVP to Barb at email: rwccreservations@gmail.com, and let her know if planning to eat.



APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8

ELBA Housing Authority

1207 North Claxton Avenue • Elba, AL 36323

(334) 897-2737 • www.elbahousing.org

 The Elba Housing Authority does not discriminate because of race, color, national origin, sex, perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, religion, familial status, or disability. The Elba Housing Authority has handicapped accessible units.



Stay current on COVID, Flu & Childhood Vaccinations

Visit alabamaunites.com to locate a vaccine

Round and About With Eria's Daughter

334-282-2200



Scripture: Vindicate Me, O God [Psalm 43: 1-5]

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Elba Zion Church Family, Corene Daniels, Freddie Culver, Vincent Smith, Dwight Belcher, Betty Moore, Shirley Coleman, Pastor Stanley Woodfolk, New Glorious Church Family

December Birthdays / Anniversaries

Jerry & Dianne Culver 12/27 W.A.

Danny & Janice Cole 12/27 W.A.

Mary S. Dawson 12/27 W.A.

Tamica Lewis 12/27

Anaiya Henderson 12/28

Alice Musgrove 12/28

Leslie Moore 12/29 (in memory)

Pastor A.R. & Bessie Williams 12/31 W.A.

Protective Boundaries

CLASSIFIEDS**The Elba Clipper**

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

TO PLACE AN AD

CALL 334-897-2823
FAX 334-897-3434
e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

COST

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)

* Additional words 20¢ each

SERVICES

BAKERS TREE SERVICE AND STUMP REMOVAL. 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE FREE Estimates. Call 897-2271 after 6:00 p.m. t/c

SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just \$210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 833-449-1307.

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR! We edit, print and distribute your work internationally. We do the work... You reap the Rewards! Call for a FREE Author's Submission Kit: 888-283-4780

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 844-925-3534

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-2344 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

We reserve the right to edit or refuse any ad at any time

ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

COST

Prepaid personal ads get fourth week

FREE!

Bordered classified ad cost \$5.50 per column inch

Only \$500 per week (first 15 words)

* Additional words 20¢ each

CAREGIVING

LOVE AND COMFORT CARE LLC Caregiver/Sitter - Affordable In-Home Assistance with Daily Needs [Housekeeping, Cooking, Shopping, Laundry, Bathing, Medication Reminder, Caring Companionship, Transportation]. Locally Owned and Operated.

Serving Elba and Enterprise area. (334) 282-4408. 1/4-4t-pd.

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ROOMMATE WANTED Female. Non-Sexual. No Pets. One Child Maybe. Call Curtis (334) 820-6472. 12/14-4t-pd.

HEALTH/ BEAUTY**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!**

Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 844-322-9935.

ATTENTION: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - \$99 + FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 866-505-0828.

AUTOMOTIVE**SUPPORT THE BLIND!**

Donate a car to the American Council of the Blind. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24-hour response. Running or not, maximum tax deduction and no emission test required! Call 24/7: 844-601-1342.

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Begin a new career and earn your Degree at CTI! Online Computer & Medical training available for Veterans & Families! To learn more, call 866-475-1014 (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

LEGAL NOTICES:

IN THE MATTER OF REBECCA L. ARRINGTON, deceased.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION CASE NO: PR-2023-208

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 13th day of December 2023 by the Honorable Jodee Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ BECKIE LYNN PATRICK
Personal Representative
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

STATE OF ALABAMA PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF COFFEE PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING UPCOMING 2024 ALABAMA STATE-WIDE PRIMARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION, AND ALABAMA PRIMARY RUN OFF

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DirecTV Satellite TV Service Starting at \$59.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 844-594-7108

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Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-683-2005

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-[PHONE1] today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

/s/ Shane Oates
SHANE A. OATES
Personal Representative of said Estate
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, Deceased

CASE NO. PR-2023-218

NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of Dianah P. Oates aka Dianah Patricia Oates, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 11th day of December 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or they will be barred.

/s/ Dianah P. Oates
DIANAH P. OATES
Personal Representative of said Estate
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ENTERPRISE DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, Deceased

CASE NO. PR-2023-223

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, deceased, having been granted to Brian D. Daughtry, Personal Representative, on the 18th day of December, 2023, by the Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama
Richard W. Whittaker, Attorney
300 E. Lee Street
Enterprise, AL 36330
(334) 393-5146
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF MAGALENE HALL a/k/a, MADALINE H HALL, DECEASED

KATHERINE ELIZABETH TUTOR PETITIONER

CASE NO.: PC 2023-057

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

Letters Testamentary of Angeline Simmons f/k/a Angeline S. Daughtry, deceased, having been granted to Brian D. Daughtry, Personal Representative, on the 18th day of December, 2023, by the Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Jodee R. Thompson
Hon. Jodee R. Thompson
Probate Judge, Coffee County, Alabama
Richard W. Whittaker, Attorney
300 E. Lee Street
Enterprise, AL 36330
(334) 393-5146
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF THELMA JUNE KENNEY, DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC-2023-087

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 12th day of December, 2023, by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Katherine Elizabeth Tutor
Katherine Elizabeth Tutor, Administrator
Jeffery D. Hatcher
Attorney for the Estate
Post Office Box 189
300 South Commerce Street
Geneva, Alabama 36340
334-684-8524
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF THELMA JUNE KENNEY, DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC-2023-087

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/s/ Katherine Elizabeth Tutor
Katherine Elizabeth Tutor, Administrator
Jeffery D. Hatcher
Attorney for the Estate
Post Office Box 189
300 South Commerce Street
Geneva, Alabama 36340
334-684-8524
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

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Katherine Elizabeth Tutor, Administrator
Jeffery D. Hatcher
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Post Office Box 189
300 South Commerce Street
Geneva, Alabama 36340
334-684-8524
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

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IN RE: THE ESTATE OF THELMA JUNE KENNEY, DECEASED.

CASE NO. PC-2023-087

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 12th day of December, 2023, by the Hon. Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Elba Division, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Katherine Elizabeth Tutor
Katherine Elizabeth Tutor, Administrator
Jeffery D. Hatcher
Attorney for the Estate
Post Office Box 189
300 South Commerce Street
Geneva, Alabama 36340
334-684-8524
12/21,28&1/4-pd.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

My wife and I joined our daughter Melissa and our grandson Lawson one night last week at an 'escape room' in Dothan and although I provided very little help, our group solved the mystery and escaped with time to spare. It was fun watching Lawson attack the puzzle of who killed a guest at a party, and it required deep thought and deduction from my three helpers to make it out. I'm not much on puzzles and games, but it was fun to watch the family work together.

For what it is worth....

*** *The Elba Tigers posted a disappointing 1-2 record* at last week's holiday tournament at the Elba High gym and again struggled to put the ball in the basket as they scored in the 30's in both losses. Elba played aggressive on defense and allowed an average of less than 50 points a game, but just didn't score enough to come out on top, and will definitely have to get better on offense if they hope to be an area title contender.

*** *The Elba Lady Tigers found out their #3 state ranking didn't scare anyone at last weekend's holiday tournament as they stumbled to a 1-2 record and got blown out on their own home court in a showdown with 4A power T.R. Miller. The tournament bracket was tough and not a lot of fans thought the Elba girls would come out on top. However, the 12-point loss to Luverne and the 29-point loss to Miller was a shock. Hopefully the tournament will serve as a wake-up call.*

*** *While tournament host Elba struggled to post wins at last week's holiday tournament, the same wasn't true for county neighbors New Brockton and Zion Chapel as the Gamecocks won three straight games to take home the tourney title and the Rebels won two of three games to continue on a roll.*

New Brockton came into the event with a less than stellar record and weren't really expected to be a threat in the eight-team field, but came out smoking with an upset win over Brantley, fought past 4A T.R. Miller and then outlasted Luverne to claim the title. The Gamecocks proved to their fans and to themselves they could win no matter the level of competition, and should be looking forward to the rest of the season and their chances in area play.

Zion Chapel scored a season-low points in an opening round loss to 4A T.R. Miller, but bounced back to post impressive wins over Brantley and Pike Lib to close the three-day event with a 2-1 record. The Rebels entered the tournament ranked sixth in the state and again proved the ranking was deserved as they never stopped battling in any of the games and won with hustle and desire. They are a fun bunch to watch.

*** *I know we still have two months left* in the current high school basketball season and then jump into baseball and softball, but over the holidays I peeked ahead to next year's high school football schedules and got excited when I saw some of the season openers. The opening week is set for August 22-23, and games on the schedule include Elba at Luverne, Kinston at Zion Chapel, New Brockton at Pike Lib, Enterprise at Andalusia, Georgiana at Greenville, Houston Academy at G.W. Long, T.R. Miller at Reeltown and Dothan at Chiles, Florida. The Elba-Luverne match-up will be the 75th meeting between the former rivals and the first meeting since back in 2017, while the Kinston-Zion Chapel match-up will be the 48th meeting of cross-county rivals after a two-year break, and the Andalusia-Enterprise match-up will mark the first time since way back in 1976 the two teams have met. There is no doubt the 2024 high school football season will kick off with a bang!

*** *In closing....* I want to congratulate everyone that came together last week to make the third annual Pea River Christmas Classic such a huge success. It takes a lot of work and cooperation from a lot of people to stage an event that brings sixteen high school teams to one site three days in a row, and includes a total of twenty-four games during that span. The Elba coaches and staff put in long hours in preparation and during the tournament to make sure everyone in attendance enjoyed their stay on campus, and after just three years the tournament has become one of the top high school holiday tournaments in the entire state. Great job and keep it going for years to come for all area fans.

BEING JOBLESS IS DIFFICULT ENOUGH.

Getting help to bridge the gap shouldn't be.

Go to Labor.Alabama.gov to locate a center near you and bridge the gap of unemployment.

Alabama Department of Labor

Funding provided by USDOE. An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Elba Tigers tumble in tournament

The Elba Tigers co-hosted the third annual Pea River Holiday Classic last week and posted one win in three outings to claim fourth place in the eight-team event.

"I am a little disappointed about only winning one game in the tournament and a little worried about the beginning of area play," admitted Elba's Coach Kelsey Prestwood, "but we played hard in all three games and I know we aren't afraid to work hard to get better and make a run for an area title. We were streaky shooting the ball from behind the arc and are still making too many turnovers to win close games, and we know that all the games we play will be close and will be won in the fourth quarter. Our guys are winners and expect to win every time they get on the court, and hopefully that will carry on to practice and the games as we get into area play."

Following is a recap of last week's three tournament games:

Elba 55 Pike Lib 52

The Elba Tigers staged a fourth quarter rally to squeeze past the Pike Lib Patriots 55-52, in opening round action. Ty Sieving poured in eight first quarter points to help the Tigers jump out to an 18-11 first quarter lead, but the Patriots battled back in

the second quarter and by the end of the half has cut Elba's lead to 34-31. Pike Lib caught the Tigers at 43-43 heading into the fourth quarter. However, Elba regained command and used the inside scoring of Jamal Siler to hold on and post the exciting 55-52 win.

Alvin Henderson and Ty Sieving scored 18 points, apiece, to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 9, Cody Gray 7 and Cameron Gray 3.

Luverne 44 Elba 38

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and saw a gallant second half rally fall short in a 44-38 second round loss to Luverne. A three-pointer by Alvin Henderson was almost the only offense that Elba could generate in the opening quarter as Luverne ran out to an early 12-4 lead, and while Jamal Siler did begin to score inside in the second stanza, Luverne never lost command and carried a 22-12 lead in at intermission. Emmanuel Cooks scored six points and Alvin Henderson added five in the third quarter to spark an Elba rally as the Tigers pulled within 32-29. However, the rally fell short as Luverne regained command turned back the Tigers 44-38.

Alvin Henderson scored 9 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Jamal Siler 7, Emmanuel Cooks 6, Ty Sieving 6, Brady Johnson 5, Cody Gray 4 and Jacob Watkins 1. Crumbley scored 14 points to lead Luverne.

T.R. Miller 46 Elba 39

The Elba Tigers battled for all four quarters in a hard fought 46-39 consolation game loss to T.R. Miller. Elba trailed only 13-12 after one quarter as Alvin Henderson drained a pair of three pointers and Emmanuel Cooks muscled inside for six points, and pulled even at the half at 23-23 as Cody Gray, Ty Sieving and Henderson all hit from behind the arc in the second quarter. Jacob Watkins scored 10 points in the second half to keep the Tigers victory hopes alive. However, Elba scored only five points in the final stanza and watched as T.R. Miller pulled away to claim the win.

Alvin Henderson and Jacob Watkins scored 10 points, apiece, to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Tigers were Emmanuel Cooks 6, Cameron Gray 5, Ty Sieving 5 and Cody Gray 3. Heath Kirkland scored 22 points to lead T.R. Miller.

Lady Tigers tripped up twice in tourney

The Elba Lady Tigers co-hosted the third annual Pea River Holiday Classic high school basketball tournament last week and posted one win in three games to place fourth in the eight-team event.

"You learn something every time you step on the court, whether it be at practice or at a game," said Elba's Coach Shaun Hammonds, "and we certainly learned last week that we have a lot of work to do if we are going to reach the goals we set before the season began. We lost two games to two very good teams and will learn from the losses, but we are also a very good team and now know that we have to prove that every time we step on the court.

The Lady Tigers battled for all four quarters in a hard fought 59-47 second round loss to Luverne. Elba trailed only 11-9 after one quarter in spite of hitting only 4 of 10 free throws, but Luverne stretched its lead to 26-18 by the end of the half and carried a 41-28 lead into the fourth quarter as the Lady Tigers saw a late rally fall short in the 59-47 loss.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 17 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Ny'Asia McCollough 14, Tajah Robinson 8, Brooke Tinsley 4, Kendra Juarez 2, Ana Caldwell 1 and Alayvia Stinson 1. KK Dixon scored 18 points to lead four Luverne players that scored in double figures.

Luverne 59 Elba 47

The Elba Lady Tigers battled for all four quarters in a hard fought 59-47 second round loss to Luverne. Elba trailed only 11-9 after one quarter in spite of hitting only 4 of 10 free throws, but Luverne stretched its lead to 26-18 by the end of the half and carried a 41-28 lead into the fourth quarter as the Lady Tigers saw a late rally fall short in the 59-47 loss.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 17 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Ny'Asia McCollough 14, Tajah Robinson 8, Brooke Tinsley 4, Kendra Juarez 2, Ana Caldwell 1 and Alayvia Stinson 1. KK Dixon scored 18 points to lead four Luverne players that scored in double figures.

T.R. Miller 45 Elba 16

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and never recovered in a 45-16 consolation game loss to T.R. Miller. The Lady Tigers found themselves in a 20-4 hole after one quarter of play, trailed 39-13 after three quarters and never threatened in the lopsided loss.

A'Lyric Whitfield scored 6 points to lead Elba, while also scoring for the Lady Tigers were Ana Caldwell 3, Brooke Tinsley 2, Kendra Juarez 2, Ayrika Caldwell 1, Alayvia Stinson 1 and Ny'Asia McCollough 1.

Meg Fountain scored 12 points and Jadin Curry added 10 to lead T.R. Miller.

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SPORTS NEWS



ALVIN HENDERSON



ALEX WISECUP



CAYDEN ADINS

Elba dominates 1A All-State squad

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2023 'All-State' high school football selections last week and included on the honored list were a total of six players from the Elba Tigers, two Brantley Bulldogs, two Zion Chapel Rebels and one Kinston Bulldog.

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has selected a high school football 'All-State' team each December since 1982, with nominations coming from coaches across the state and final selections made by a panel of statewide sports writers.

The Tigers named first team 'All State' included (1st Team) Alvin Henderson, Jamal Siler, Alex Wisecup, Cayden Adkins and Cameron Gray, while Kaleb Mitchell received second team honors.

Henderson, a 5-10, 185-pound, junior, running back, made the statewide list for the second straight season and set the AHSAA state record for rushing yards and rushing touchdowns in a season with 3,523 yards and 61 touchdowns to help lead Elba to the semifinal round of the Class 1A playoffs.

Siler, a 6-4, 285-pound, senior, offensive lineman, recorded 61 devastation blocks, including 41 pancake blocks, and graded out 87 percent on the season, while not allowing a single quarterback sack.

Wisecup, a 5-7, 150-pound, senior, placekicker, scored 105 points during the season as Elba's placekicker, the second most points ever recorded by a kicker in AHSAA history. He connected on 93 of 96 extra-point attempts and was 4 of 5 on field goals, with his longest being a 33-yarder.

Adkins, a 6-1, 235-pound, junior, linebacker, was in on 120 total tackles during the season, with 81 solo stops, 40 tackles for loss, seven quarterback sacks and one tackle for a safety. He added 12 quarterback hurries, forced two fumbles, recovered two fumbles, had two pass interceptions and blocked one punt.

Gray, a 6-0, 180-pound, senior, defensive back, was a repeat pick on the All-State team, and during the season had eight pass interceptions along with five pass breakups, 19 tackles and one forced fumble.

Mitchell, a 6-2, 275-pound, senior, offensive lineman, graded 83 percent with 33 devastation blocks, 20 pancake blocks and did not allow a quarterback sack.

Brantley's Cooper Layton and Romeo Presseley were both named '1st Team' selections. Layton, a 6-0, 180-pound, junior, wide-receiver, rushed for 395 yards and 4 touchdowns on 35 carries; caught 48 passes for 989 yards and 7 touchdowns, and recorded 48 tackles and two pass interceptions on defense. Presseley, a 5-10, 250-pound, senior, offensive lineman, was a five-year starter in the offensive line, graded 90 percent or better in every game, and on defense recorded 60 tackles, with 14 tackles for a loss and seven sacks.

Zion Chapel was represented on the honored list of the state's top players by (2nd Team) Mason Stuart and (Honorable Mention) Brayden Benbow. Stuart, a 5-11,

205-pound, senior, athlete, rushed for 1,239 yards and 15 touchdowns; passed for 1,160 yards and 10 touchdowns; made 21 tackles, including nine tackles for a loss; recorded two quarterback sacks; connected on 3 of 7 field-goal attempts; and was also the team's long snapper on punts. Benbow, a 5-11, 175-pound, sophomore, linebacker, was in on 124 tackles during the season in 10 games and recorded 12 tackles for a loss and two quarterback sacks.

Kinston was represented on the 'All-State' roster by (Honorable Mention) Colby Tew, a 6-2, 190-pound, junior, running back. The Bulldog standout rushed for 1,386 yards and 10 touchdowns in 10 games, an average of 138.6 yards a game and a 6.76-yard average per carry.

Other area players on the 'All-State' roster included Class 7A – (1st Team) Andrew Purcell, junior defensive back, Enterprise; (2nd Team) Keion Dunlap, senior, running back, Enterprise; Caden Anderson, senior, offensive line, Enterprise; Fred Vili, senior, defensive line, Enterprise; JT Hooten, senior, linebacker, Enterprise; Eric Winters, junior, athlete, Enterprise; Lois Snell, junior, offensive line, Dothan; (HM) Ke'Avion Durry, senior, defensive back, Dothan; Class 5A – (1st Team) Antron Mitchell, senior, wide receiver, Eufaula; Benton Dunn, senior, offensive line, Charles Henderson; Nik Peerson, senior, placekicker, Charles Henderson; Zion Grady, junior, defensive line, Charles Henderson; Jy'Won Boyd, senior, athlete, Charles Henderson; Caleb Dozier, senior, athlete, Headland; (2nd Team) Peyton Plott, junior, wide receiver, Carroll; Toney Coleman, senior, defensive back, Eufaula; (HM) Lakeith Person, senior, athlete, Carroll; Class 4A – (1st Team) Kol Petrey, senior, offensive line, Andalusia; Landen Marshall, senior, defensive line, Andalusia; Class 3A – (1st Team) Parker Black, senior, defensive back, Straughn; (2nd Team) Colson Love, sophomore, defensive back, Providence Christian; Kadyn Mitchell, junior, athlete, Houston Academy; Oamarion Pinckney, senior, athlete, Daleville; Class 2A – (1st Team) Lane Duett, senior, offensive line, Highland Home; CJ May, junior, defensive line, Highland Home; JJ Faulk, junior, linebacker, Highland Home; Brice McKenzie, senior, defensive back, Highland Home; Ian Senn, senior, defensive back, Ariton; (2nd Team) Jamauri McClure, senior, running back, Goshen; Tyler Chaney, junior, wide receiver, Highland Home; Kain Campbell, junior, offensive line, Cottonwood; Jamarien Govan, senior, offensive line, Ariton; Landon Chandler, junior, linebacker, Goshen; Trevor Johnston, senior, linebacker, Ariton; Mason Burkhardt, sophomore, athlete, Wicksburg; Class 1A – (1st Team) Fred Curry, junior, linebacker, Georgiana; Rayshon Coleman, junior, athlete, Florala; (2nd Team) Elijah McMeans, junior, wide receiver, Florala; Cam Miles, senior, linebacker, Georgiana; Marques Payton, senior, athlete, Georgiana; (HM) Kaveon Miles, junior, defensive back, Georgiana; Jacquese Abner, senior, athlete, Georgiana.



CAMERON GRAY



JAMAL SILER



KALEB MITCHELL



NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS - 2023 PEA RIVER CHAMPS

all four quarters to escape with a hard fought 37-32 second round win over T.R. Miller, at the Pea River Christmas Classic. Josiah Peterson scored 12 points and grabbed 4 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, while Kenyon Kitton added 8 points, Anthony Silar scored 7 points and grabbed 6 rebounds, Yassiah Rousseau scored 4 points and grabbed 13 rebounds. Josiah Lewis scored 4 points and had 1 rebound, Baylon Foster scored 2 points and had 1 rebound, and Bryant Crumpler had 1 rebound.

New Brockton batters Brantley 73-52

The New Brockton Gamecocks opened play at the Pea River Christmas Classic with a solid 73-52 romp past the Brantley Bulldogs. Yassiah Rousseau scored 25 points and grabbed 20 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, Josiah Peterson added 21 points and pulled down 10 rebounds, and Baylon Foster scored 12 points and grabbed 4 rebounds. Kenyon Kitton added 8 points and 3 rebounds, Josiah Lewis added 7 points and 3 rebounds, Bryant Crumpler added 6 rebounds, Anthony Silar had 3 rebounds and William Adkison, Dallas Bourne and Cayden Wallace all pulled down 1 rebound.

New Brockton tops T.R. Miller 37-32

The New Brockton Gamecocks had to battle for

their run to the tournament title in last week's Pea River Christmas Classic with an exciting 61-59 win over Luverne. Yassiah Rousseau scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to lead the Gamecocks, while Kenyon Kitton added 2 points and 3 rebounds, Bryant Crumpler added 2 points and 2 rebounds, and Noah Moore and Blake Cox both pulled down 1 rebound.

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Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Elba Clinics: Jan. 17 & Jan. 31

ELBA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business of the Month:

Southeast Insurance

Follow the Chamber ...

Elba, Alabama Chamber of Commerce



COMMUNITY NEWS

CCA bringing The Lettermen to Enterprise for January concert

The Coffee County Arts Alliance will host The Lettermen in concert Monday, Jan. 22, at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center. The concert will begin at 7 p.m.

The Lettermen have been

creating musical memories for over 50 years. Tickets are on sale now at www.coffeecountyartsalliance.com or at these (Enterprise located) ticket outlets: The Olive Fruit, The Brick Pub & Pizzeria, and Yancey Parkers.

Feb. 12th is deadline to register to vote in Alabama's March 5 Primary Elections

Coffee County officials remind voters that Monday, Feb. 12, at 4:30 p.m. is the deadline for registering to vote in time for the March 5, 2024 Primary Elections.

The Board of Registrars' office is located in the Coffee County Complex, E. McKinnon St., New Brockton, AL.

Any person may register to vote, provided they:

Visit Coffee County's website for upcoming election information

Coffee County Probate Judge Jodee R. Thompson invites voters to visit the election website: www.coffeecountyvotes.com

While there, one can:

*Register to vote

*Check your registration status

*View a sample ballot

*Find your polling location

*View the offices up for elections

*View a current list of elected officials

*Apply to become a poll worker

*Apply for an absentee ballot, and much more!

- are a citizen of the United States;
- live in Alabama (and the county of registration);
- are at least 18 years old on or before election day;
- are not barred from voting due to a disqualifying felony conviction; and
- have not been declared mentally incompetent by a court

Voters who want to update their voting information to reflect a change in name or address should contact the Board of Registrars. The telephone number for the Board of Registrars is 894-5347.

For further information contact:

Coffee County Board of Registrars
4 County Complex,
Highway 84W
New Brockton, AL

Alabamians may obtain an application or register to vote online at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabamavotes/voter/register-to-vote>. They may also obtain a voter registration application at Driver License Offices, Libraries, and at Alabama Public Assistance offices such as Medicaid, WIC and DHR.



The WoodmenLife Elba Chapter 1932 recently wished the residents and staff of the Elba Nursing and Rehab a very Merry Christmas by presenting socks and blankets to the residents. Local WoodmenLife representatives were Kimberly Bane, Janna Curtis and Linda Westbrook. Those pictured above include (from left) Jennifer Dyess, Kimberly Bane, Janna Curtis, Linda Westbrook, Michelle Ellison, Margaret Holmes, and Patricia Copes.

January is School Board Member Recognition Month in Alabama

The Alabama Association of School Boards (AASB) is calling on Alabama's public education supporters to join in celebrating the dedicated service of school board members throughout

the state. January marks the 31st annual School Board Member Recognition Month in Alabama.

During this special month, schools, employers, community leaders and educa-

tion advocates will come together to honor the more than 800 local school board members who tirelessly work to improve education in their communities. AASB is providing a comprehensive toolkit to assist anyone who wishes to show their appreciation for these committed individuals.

The toolkit, available on the AASB website, offers a range of resources and ideas to help supporters recognize the invaluable contributions made by school board members. From sample social media posts and graphics to suggestions for hosting recognition events, the toolkit provides a convenient guide for expressing gratitude.

This year's theme is "Cultivating Brilliance in Alabama Schools," which highlights the role board members play in fostering excellence in education throughout the state. The theme is also a nod to the Alabama Association of School Boards' "Diamond" 75th anniversary being celebrated in 2024.

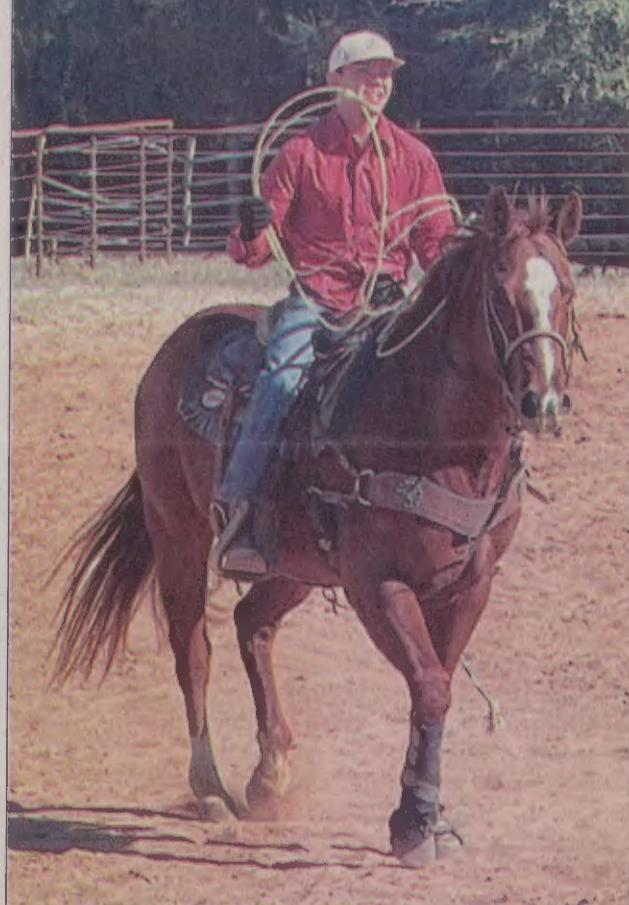
"School board members play a crucial role in shaping the future of education in Alabama," said AASB Executive Director Sally Smith. "Their dedication and commitment to our students and communities deserve our utmost appreciation. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to recognize their hard work and selfless service."

School board members are appointed officials who give their time and expertise to govern local school districts.

They work collaboratively with educators, parents, and community members to make decisions that impact the quality of education provided to students. Their responsibilities include setting policies, approving budgets, and ensuring accountability.

"Alabama's school board members are true champions for education," said AASB President Brad Ingle. "They are the voice of the community, advocating for the needs of students and working to create positive learning environments for every student. We are grateful for their commitment."

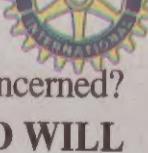
For more information on how to participate in School Board Member Recognition Month and access the toolkit, please visit the AASB website at www.alabamaschoolboards.org/SchoolBoardMonth.



Elba teen Cole Shehee (pictured above) has taken on a new sporting challenge - competitive roping. He enjoyed his first competition over the New Year's holiday. Reports are that he had a successful first event and is already looking forward to the next event. Cole is the son of Kelly and Kayron Shehee of Elba. He is a student at Elba High School.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do



- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Compliments of

ELBA ROTARY CLUB



Jackson Blair enjoyed shooting fireworks with his family on New Year's Eve. Above, he is shown waving multiple sparklers at once. Jackson, the son of Brian & Megan Blair, is a student at New Brockton Elementary School.

Alabama's Health is Job #1.

Story at alabamaunites.com



ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH

CDC

STOP Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the
Alabama Department of Human Resources
Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214

aps@dhr.alabama.gov



City Privilege Licenses

are due

January 1, 2024

and delinquent

February 1, 2024

Penalties will be assessed if license is not

purchased prior to February 1.

For further information or to purchase a license, please contact Sandra Berry at

(334) 897-2333.

City of Elba, AL

Sally Bane, City Clerk